



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY**

231 Capitol Avenue • Hartford, Connecticut 06106



KENDALL F. WIGGIN  
State Librarian  
TEL: (860) 757-6510 - FAX: 757-6503

**Testimony of**  
**Kendall F. Wiggin, State Librarian**

**Concerning H. B. No. 6357**

***AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
GOVERNOR CONCERNING EDUCATION.***

**Education Committee**

**February 15, 2013**

Good afternoon Senator Stillman, Representative Fleischmann, and distinguished members of the Education Committee. My name is Kendall Wiggin and I am the Connecticut State Librarian. I am here to speak to Sec. 26. of H.B. 6357.

The Governor's proposed budget reduces funding for the 40 year old Connecticard program (CCARD) by \$200,000. Sec. 26 of HB6357 would change Sec. 11- 31b, the statute concerning CCARD, by establishing a cap on how much a library that participates in the program can receive in reimbursement. .

Currently, by statute, Connecticard allocation is divided in half. One half is split between all the reporting libraries, based strictly on the number of loans made to non-residents. The more loans a library makes, the higher this base payment. The other half of the money is allocated only to those libraries who lend more to non-residents than their own card-holders borrow in other public libraries. These are called net-plus loans.

The Governor's proposal does not change the way the funds are divided, however, a cap of \$10,000 on the base payment means that libraries who lend more items to non-residents will not be reimbursed for any amount above that number. Their base payment will be reduced.

I would be glad to provide more details to the Committee on how the program works and the possible implications of this change as your consideration of the State Library budget and this bill moves forward.